THE RAP SHEET

Information from the Criminal Records Division

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Welcome!

Welcome to THE RAP SHEET, the newsletter of the Criminal Records Division (CRD) of the Michigan State Police (MSP). This issue includes a variety of automation related articles with a focus on improvement in collection, building and reporting of criminal history records (CHRs), rollout of the Next Generation LEIN (NGL), and changes to the Sex Offender Registry (SOR). Despite the best efforts involving automation and technology, the human factor remains key to effective public safety. This issue also contains a short article that describes law enforcement's role in record challenges, and provides an example of an Internet Criminal History Access Tool (ICHAT) success story.

As we move too quickly toward the end of 2007, the men and women of the CRD would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your assistance and support as we strive to provide timely and accurate information to enhance criminal justice and public safety. We wish each of you and your family a happy and safe holiday season.

The National Crime Prevention and Privacy Compact Council

In 1998, the federal government enacted the National Crime Prevention and Privacy Compact. Since that time, 27 states have ratified the Compact. The purpose of the Compact is to:

- Provide a legal framework for the establishment of a cooperative federal and state system for the exchange of CHRs for non-criminal justice users

- Require the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to permit use of the National Identification Index (NII) and the National Fingerprint File (NFF) by each participating state, and provide federal and state CHRs to requesting states

- Require participating states to provide information and CHRs for the NII and NFF to CHR repositories of other states and the federal government for non-criminal justice purposes

- Establish a council to monitor Interstate Identification Index (III) System operations and to establish rules and procedures for effective operation of the III System for non-criminal justice purposes

- Require the FBI and each participating state to adhere to III System standards regarding record dissemination, response times, enhanced system security, and data quality

Information regarding the Compact has been presented to the MSP Executive Council and the Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS) Policy Council. The CRD will be working with the MSP Executive Division to pursue legislation that is required for Michigan to ratify the Compact.

Benefits of Michigan ratifying the Compact:

- Facilitates the sharing of complete, accurate, and timely CHR information
- Allows access to CHRs directly from participating states
- Provides Michigan with input into drafting of federal rules pertaining to the sharing and use of CHR information both for criminal justice and non-criminal justice purposes
- Allows Michigan to work towards becoming a NFF state

Questions regarding the Compact may be directed to Mr. Timothy Bolles at (517) 322-5529 or bollestd@michigan.gov.

Automated Court Disposition Reporting

The automated process of transmitting court dispositions to MSP has been a huge success. Our thanks to you for the large number of successful electronic court dispositions transmitted to complete the full process of an arrest incident. The main components in reporting dispositions to the CHR are:

- State Identification Number (SID)
- Subject's name
- Criminal Tracking Number (CTN) for state cases authorized by the prosecutor
- Tracking Control Number (TCN) and Originating Agency Case Number (OCA) are used to enter court dispositions on arrests for low court misdemeanors or a city ordinance violations

In order for a disposition to append the CHR, the OCA needs to be entered exactly as originally input by the Live Scan agency. If the TCN/OCA disposition transaction has been accepted by MSP but stored in a pending file, verify that the OCA has been entered exactly as it appeared on the CHR. The disposition will not appear on the CHR until the entry is exact.

Questions concerning dispositions or help resolving electronic reject errors may be directed to Ms. Diane Sandborn at (517) 636-0121 or sandbord@michigan.gov.

Automated Prosecutor Charge Reporting

Automation of prosecutor charge reporting has been very successful. Currently, only two of Michigan's 83 counties are reporting charges manually. Electronic submissions through the Prosecuting Attorneys Coordinating Council/Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan's (PACC/PAAMs) Adult Case Tracking (ACT) to the CHR are key to this success. PACC/PAAM has created a monthly Criminal History Status Report. The report details the percentage of completions and charges entered through ACT.

To receive a copy of the status report, or if you have any questions concerning ACT or Juvenile Case Tracking (JCT), contact Mr. Dan Barnette at (517) 334-6060 or barnetted@michigan.gov.

Questions concerning prosecutor information may be directed to Ms. Paula Campbell at (517) 322-5940 or campbepa@michigan.gov.

Fingerprinting for Record Challenges – Helps Citizens

Frequently, the CRD receives frantic calls from citizens who believe their name has appeared in an ICHAT search. When this occurs, citizens become confused and angry with questions such as, "Who stole my ID, how could I be confused with someone else, this isn't me, and what do I do now." Once the citizen contacts the CRD, our first objective is to calm the citizen down and explain the ICHAT search process. An ICHAT search may match a citizen who has a common last name and the same birth year with an individual who has a criminal history. Citizens who have been misidentified may request a record challenge.

A record challenge is a fingerprint based search that the CRD performs on an applicant fingerprint card (RI-8) submitted by the identified citizen that will prove that the person is not (or sometimes is) the person that ICHAT identified. The record challenge process involves the following steps:

- A law enforcement agency assists the citizen by taking a set of fingerprints on the RI-8.
- The citizen submits the RI-8 to the CRD.
- The completed RI-8 is used to complete a fingerprint based background check.
- If appropriate, the CRD provides the citizen with a letter stating that there is no criminal history information on file meeting Michigan's dissemination criteria.

Our thanks to all law enforcement agencies that help our citizens work through questions regarding misidentification.

Questions regarding the record challenges may be directed to Ms. Johanna Goodwin at (517) 322-6766 or goodwinjr@michigan.gov.

NEXT GENERATION LEIN (NGL) IMPLEMENTED

During the weekend of September 29 - 30, 2007, the legacy LEIN was replaced with NGL. The CRD continues to resolve minor issues with NGL and encourages users to contact the help desk at (877) 264-2546 with any problems. The legacy LEIN system served our state well.

On July 23, 1967, LEIN experienced its inaugural deployment when the Governor's emergency proclamation relating to the Detroit riot was broadcast. For more than 40 years, LEIN continued to use the same software until the cutover to NGL. Needless to say, the 40-year old system presented problems with support, new enhancements, performance, and overall growth. A comparison of LEIN and NGL include:

- LEIN began operation with only 48 terminals. Today, NGL provides access to over 400,000 workstations, mobile computers, and wireless devices nationwide.
- LEIN began with 2,100 stolen vehicles. Today, the number of stolen vehicles records exceeds 100,000.
- LEIN began with no warrants. Today, the number of warrants and person records exceeds one million

Over 50,000 man hours were expended in the design, development, and implementation of NGL. During the NGL cutover, 65 people were involved with the project. On behalf of the MSP and the Department of Information Technology (DIT) project team, we thank you for your support during the development and implementation of NGL.

Changes to the Registration of Sex Offenders

The current process of registering sex offenders will change in the near future. NGL will no longer facilitate registration of sex offenders. A new Sex Offender Registry (SOR) program will become a separate application accessible only through the MICJIN portal. The only SOR message key that will function in NGL is the QSOR message key. A QSOR query via NGL will return a response advising whether the individual is a registered sex offender or not.

After the changes occur, attempting to use NGL to access other SOR message keys listed below will return a response stating, "This message key is no longer valid for use in LEIN. Please proceed to the MICJIN portal and select the SOR icon to perform this transaction. If you have any questions or concerns, contact the MICJIN Help Desk at (877) 264-2546."

The below SOR message keys will not be valid for NGL after the change occurs:

- Enter Sex Offender   (ESOR)
- Modify Sex Offender (MSOR)
- Cancel Sex Offender (CSOR)
- Enter Supplemental Information (SESUP)
- Modify PACC Code [Local Form] (MSOR)
- Add Campus Flag (CNF)
- Add 2004 Flag [Local Form] [FNN2]
- Enter Campus Information (SESUP)
- Cancel Campus Information (SCSUP)
- Cancel Alias [Local Form] (SCSUP)
- Enter Address Change (SESUP)
- Remove Address Change (SCSUP)
- Query Public Inspection Offender List (PSOR)
- Query False address Flag List (FSOR)
- Query Verification List (VSOR)
- Query Police Search Offender List (LSOR)

Agencies will be notified through NGL of the effective date prior to implementation.

Any questions or concerns regarding the new SOR application can be directed to the Criminal Justice Information Center's (CJIC) Statistical Records Division (SRD), SOR Section, at (517) 322-4939.

Questions or concerns regarding NGL can be directed to Mr. John Rojeski, CJIS Field Services Section, at (517) 636-4519 or rojeskij@michigan.gov.

<div style="background-color:navy; color:gold; text-align:center;">Success Stories</div>

ICHAT Success
Recently, a representative from a Michigan school district contacted the ICHAT team to express their gratitude. The school uses ICHAT for background checks for all their volunteers. As the result of a recent query, they were able to identify and closely monitor a parent volunteer assisting with their Halloween festivities. The children of their school remained safe during their holiday function.

Criminal Records Division Help
Applicant Background Check (517) 322-1956
Computerized Criminal History (517) 322-1956
Fingerprints (517) 322-1956

How can we help? If you have ideas for future articles, please contact Ms. Marcy Best at (517) 322-1665 or bestm@michigan.gov.